



Statement from U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe
on the occasion of the first World Wildlife Day

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“The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is delighted to join the international community in recognizing and celebrating the first World Wildlife Day. The native species and ecosystems of our planet support billions of people and drive the world’s economy. Preservation of our wild fauna and flora depends on the international community coming together to find solutions to our greatest conservation challenges.

As head of the United States delegation to the 16th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, I was proud to lend U.S. support to the adoption of a resolution designating March 3rd as World Wildlife Day. I was pleased by the subsequent adoption and recognition of this day by the United Nations General Assembly— an unequivocal statement that celebrating wildlife and its many ecological, economic, and societal benefits is a worthwhile endeavor that will resonate to all corners of the world.”